Remarks

In the present application, claims 76, 79, 85, 91, 95, 97, 103, and 119 have been amended, new claims 121-125 have been added, and claims 81, 102, 107, and 118 have been canceled. Support for the amended claims may be found in Figures 9B, 9C, 9D, 10B, 10C, and 10D and on page 13, lines 31-32 of the Specification. Support for new claims 121-125 may be found on page 10, line 29 through page 11, line 7. No new matter has been added.

Drawings

Amended drawings for Figures for Figures 9B, 9C, 9D, 10B, 10C, 10D, and 25B are being submitted in replacement and annotated drawing sheets, attached hereto, for the Examiner's consideration. The replacement drawing sheets for Figures 9B, 9C, 9D, 10B, 10C, and 10D clearly identify recesses in the spray bar and show diameters for both the nozzles and the recesses. Support for the amended drawings may be found on page 13, lines 31-32 of the Specification. The replacement drawing sheets also show the deletion of one of the straps from the front view of the backpack shown in Figure 25B as requested by the Examiner in the Notice of Allowance mailed on May 4, 2005. No new matter has been added.

Amended Claims

Independent Claims 76, 79, 85, 91, 95, 97, 103, and 119 have been amended. It is respectfully submitted that the cited references of record fail to teach, disclose, or suggest each of the features specified in these claims. For example, the cited references of record fail to disclose, within a push broom having a spray bar, a water channel positioned within the spray bar, the water channel having a front surface, the water channel extending from a left side of the spray bar to a right side of the spray bar, the water channel receiving a flow of the liquid from the handle, a plurality of nozzles connected to the water channel for receiving the liquid and for

expelling the liquid under pressure forward and downward ahead of the broom head and the plurality of bristles and onto the horizontal surface, the plurality of nozzles extending from the front surface of the water channel to a distance behind the front surface of the spray bar, and a plurality of recesses for receiving the liquid from the plurality of nozzles, the plurality of recesses positioned behind the front surface of the spray bar and extending to the front of the plurality of nozzles, wherein each of the plurality of recesses has a diameter greater than each of the plurality of nozzles. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claims 76, 85, 91, 97, and 103 are allowable over the cited references of record. Dependent claims 77- 79, 82-84, 86-90, 92-96, 98-99, 104-105, 108-117, and 119-121 depend from claims 76, 85, 91, 97, and 103 and are thus allowable for at least the same reasons.

New Claims

New claims 121-125 depend from independent claims 76, 85, and 91 and are thus allowable for at least the same reasons as these claims.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is now believed to be in a condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after this amendment, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to call directly Applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

If any additional fees are required for the timely consideration of this application, please charge Deposit Account Number 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD

Date: August 1, 2005

Merchant & Gould, LLC P.O. Box 2903

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903 Telephone: 404.954.5100

Alton Hornsby, III Reg. No. 47,299

27488
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

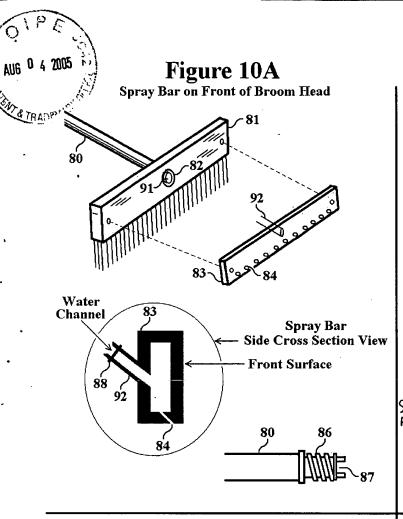


Figure 10B

Alternative Configuration, Recessed Nozzles on Front of Spray Bar

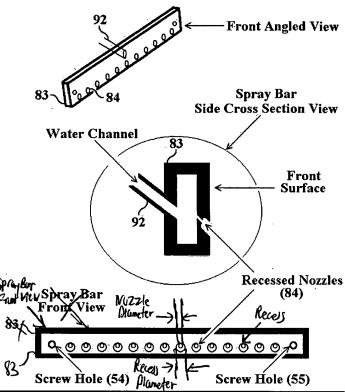


Figure 10C

Alternative Configuration, Spray Bar on Top of Broom Head with Recessed Nozzles

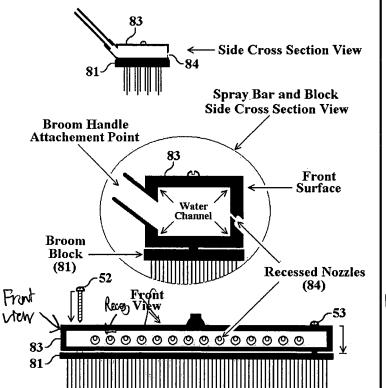
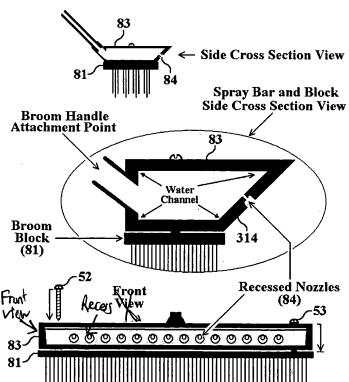


Figure 10D

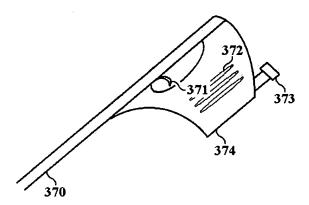
Alternative Configuration, Spray Bar on Top of Broom Head with Recessed Nozzles on an Angled Planar Surface



REPEACEMENT SHEET

Figure 25A Engine, Pump and Valve Assembly

on a Broom Handle



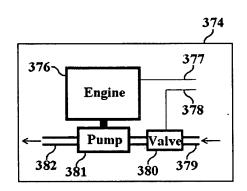


Figure 25B

Alternative Configuration, Engine, Pump and Valve Assembly on a Backpack

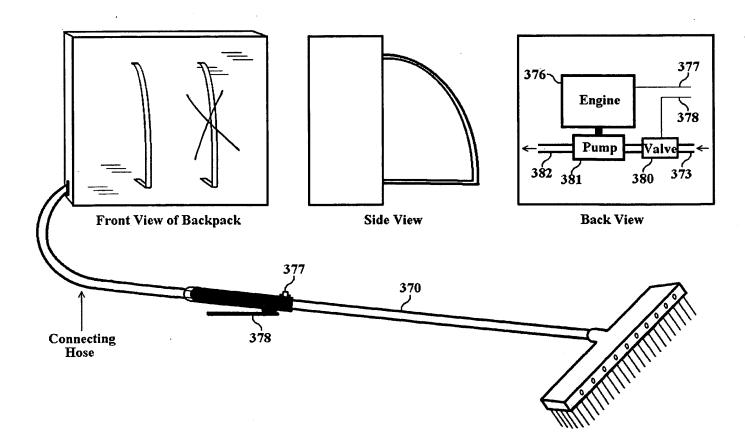


Figure 9A

Broom Head with Integrated

Molded Water Channels and Nozzles

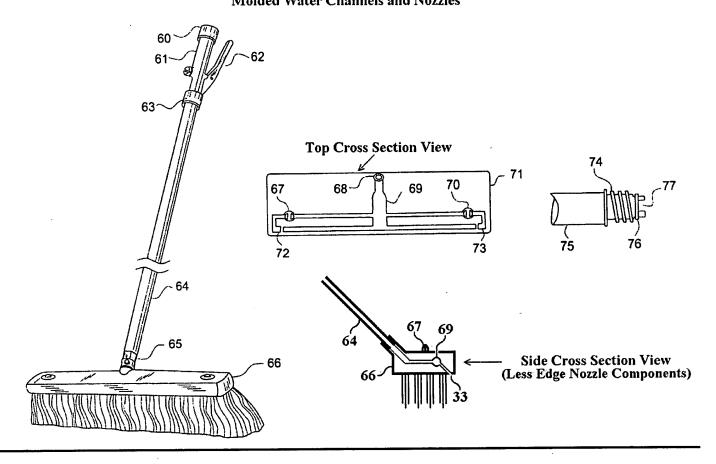


Figure 9B
Alternative Configuration,
Recessed Nozzles on Front of Broom Head

